

THE OPPORTUNITY

Of the Republican Party Discussed by Mr. M. C. O. Church.

HENRY CABOT LODGE'S ARTICLE

In Harper's Weekly Dissected.—Mr. Church thinks the Time has Come When the Tariff Question Should Be Taken Out of Politics and All Parties Join in a Revision That Will Meet the Developed Wants of the Country, Treating it as a Purely Business Proposition—Some Views That are not Exactly Orthodox.

To the Editor of the Intelligencer.

Sir:—Senator Henry Cabot Lodge, of Massachusetts, in a recent paper published in Harper's Weekly, and headed: "Opportunity of the Republican Party," makes some valuable suggestions as to the coming work of the Republican party in revising a new tariff. Mr. Lodge realizes that the McKinley tariff went too far—allowing Blaine Republicans and the old free traders, who clung to the party because of its record and of a dislike to make a change. These latter have no hope for free trade except through Mr. Blaine's reciprocity—through federation or a "customs union" as discussed in the Pan-American Congress.

Mr. Lodge is a protectionist of the old school—content, now that our "infant industries" of an early day have achieved their "independence," to make provision for our laborers in a tariff for revenue that will give "incidental protection" to our skilled mechanics; and then—"rest." This was the kind of protection that Mr. Blaine favored. He looked more to the welfare of our wage-earners than he did to the protected manufacturers.

Mr. Lodge is an admirer of Hamilton. He wrote his "Life"—a scholarly production. He doubtless became so enamored with the teachings of this great man that he very naturally supposed that the old Whig party was its lineal descendant, and that the Republican party was, and is the successor of the old Whig party, so he claims at any rate. The first is true, but the latter is not, as every one knows, who participated in the work which varied its history.

The Republican party was the outcome of the Free Soil party—taking the name in war times of the "Union Republican Party." In the Fremont campaign of 1856 the Free Soil, Free Democracy and a large number of Whigs united as an anti-slavery party pure and simple, to keep slavery out of the territories. It was a new party—the brain of which was largely from the Democratic ranks. Fremont himself was a Democrat. When Mr. Lincoln was nominated and the Union Republican party was fully equipped for the stern work before it, it was animated by but one sentiment—the saving of the union. Democrats, Whigs, Abolitionists, Free Soilers and every patriot in the north and west was a member of this party. The fact is, if we may judge by the platform adopted at Chicago, when Mr. Lincoln was nominated in 1860, the party had more of the spirit of the old Jackson Democratic party than it did of the old Whig party. It was really that party, in spirit, revived. Just read the following resolutions as an illustration:

"That the maintenance of the principles promulgated in the declaration of independence and embodied in the federal constitution, 'That all men are created equal; that they are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights; that among these are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness; that to secure these rights, governments are instituted among men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed,' is essential to the preservation of our republican institutions, and of the federal constitution. The rights of the states and the union of the states, must and shall be preserved.

"That the maintenance inviolate of the rights of the states and especially the right of each state to order and control its own domestic institutions according to its own judgment exclusively, is essential to that balance of powers on which the perfection and endurance of our political fabric depends."

Does Mr. Lodge recognize in these sentiments the old "federal" doctrines of which he boasts as being the basis of the Republican party? To one who is not prejudiced the language sounds very much like the teachings of Andrew Jackson. Mr. Lodge ought to study history or cease to pose as the successor of such men as Seward, Chase, Giddings, Stevens, Fessenden, Greeley, Boutwell, Sumner, Wilson and the other great men to whom the Republican party must something.

In these unique resolutions the party gave Mr. Lincoln his chart to guide him in what followed. The war was waged to preserve the "rights of the states and the union of the states."

FIRST PROTECTIVE PLATFORM.

For the first time in the history of parties in this country, the protection of the American laborer and the American farmer was announced in the platform of the convention which nominated Mr. Lincoln in 1860. It was that announcement which gave the Republican party complete differentiation from the old Whig party, and made it the true representative of the party for the encouragement of American labor in discriminating its tariff policy. This was further emphasized when Mr. Blaine was nominated in 1884. If Mr. Blaine had been elected it was his purpose and the purpose of those who supported him to establish a bureau through which the skilled mechanic could receive his proper share of "protection." High protection, as embodied in the McKinley tariff, in taking care of the exclusive interests of the manufacturer, failed to make this wise discrimination, and as a consequence the Republican party was defeated in 1892. The reason for this discrimination is stated in the recent speech of Senator Lodge in discussing the tariff question, and also in his article in Harper's Weekly, "The Opportunity of the Republican Party." Mr. Lodge, we take it, is for a revision of the tariff on this line. If so, and we can succeed in his efforts in this direction and insure to the country Mr. Blaine's reciprocity, the "grand old party" may have a new lease of life. Here is what Mr. Lodge says:

"The entire difference between our prices and those of Europe, when such difference exists, really lies in the labor cost. From the man who digs the clay, quarries the stone, or mines the iron from which the factory is built, to the operative who guides the most complicated machinery in the completed buildings, the labor cost is greater than in Europe, and the labor cost practically constitutes the whole cost so far as any question of competition is concerned. With a duty equal to the difference in labor cost, our rates of wages can be maintained against outside competition. With the removal of such duties we must bring our labor cost down to theirs or we must cease to manufacture and compete. To maintain these rates of wages is the whole purpose of protection after we have got beyond the stage to establish our industrial independence."

We have emphasized a most remarkable admission by Mr. Lodge in the above paragraph. It is the key note of his able speech, and the key note for Republican policy in making a new revision of the tariff, now that the people have condemned the McKinley tariff; now that the Democratic party has failed in its "tariff reform." Our manufacturers have had too much "protection." The "infants" of fifty years ago have grown to be stalwart men and need very little protection. With the opening of the markets on the American continent by the adoption of Mr. Blaine's reciprocity, the American manufacturer can proclaim his "independence" and be content to share with the farmer and laborer such incidental protection as may be proper, under a properly revised tariff. He then will favor a "customs union" which will bring "free trade and free silver to the free Americas."

A tariff for revenue so scheduled as to give "incidental protection" to "protect" our "infant industries" and to "protect" the American farmer and the American laborer is the demand of the hour. Why cannot the Republicans and the Populists unite and bring to the country this much needed "tariff reform?" The Democratic party not only has failed here, but has failed in every other promise it made at Chicago. In the language of Mr. Lodge, here is the "Opportunity of the Republican party," and—of the Populists. They are practically agreed upon the restoration of bi-metalism. When bi-metalism is restored the "free Americas" can meet and adopt Mr. Blaine's suggestion embodied in the act of Congress, which he formulated, called the "American International Conference." The following is the clause to which we allude: "The adoption of a common silver coin, to be issued by each government, the same to be legal tender in all commercial transactions between the citizens of all the American states."

BOTH TRUE.

We have criticized Mr. Lodge in the claims he makes as to the succession of the Republican party from the old Whig party.

The Democrats claim that the Democratic party is the successor of the Jeffersonian Republican party. Both of these claims are true, only in the sense that the law of evolution and development brings forward into each new cycle of experience the gathered remains of what preceded. As we have shown or tried to show, the Republican party, in its origin, took up into itself the best elements of all preceding parties—notably the old Jacksonian Democratic party; and until recent years it gave full expression to all that has gone before in our evolutionary life. The divergence into the teaching of the old Whig party commenced after the defeat of Mr. Blaine, in the enactment of tariffs in the exclusive interest of the manufacturer—leaving out all provision for the skilled laborer and the farmer. The adoption of the McKinley tariff brought the condemnation and defeat of the Republican party because of its departure from the precedents of the fathers of the republic and of the great leaders of the Republican party, limiting itself to the claims of the old Whig party.

As the readers of the INTELLIGENCER well know, protection, as taught by Hamilton, Jefferson, Madison, Monroe, Jackson and other great men of all parties simply meant the encouragement and development of American industry. This was regarded as a temporary expedient to evolve our own manufacturing interests and to help them to achieve their industrial independence. This was all there was to this policy.

Tariffs are primarily tariffs for revenue. It is their make-up that makes the discrimination in favor of now "vested interests." So long as our revenue is largely obtained from tariff taxation—the laborer and farmer should not be forgotten in applying protection to American manufacturers. As Mr. Lodge hints above, the manufacturer, in a measure, has achieved his independence. "The entire difference between our prices and those of Europe, when such difference exists, really lies in the labor cost."

As Mr. Lodge meets the issue in this tersely put sentence and thereby brings the question into practical form to be considered and dealt with, let all tariff tinkering stop—whether indulged in by Democrats or Republicans—and let the people take the matter into their own hands and send men to Congress who will give them a tariff so adjusted as to afford "incidental protection" to our "infant industries;" to our farmers and our laborers. Let all of our revenue be raised by such a tariff and by our present internal revenue system, and dismiss all talk about a "graduated income tax." With a tariff adjusted to meet all classes we can then take a "rest" as Mr. Lodge suggested in his late article in Harper's Weekly.

The Wilson bill, as it passed the house, had some merits. It gave the manufacturer free wool, free iron ore and free coal, free lumber and free sugar, and made a wise adjustment in other directions. Although not fully meeting the requirements of the people, as expressed in the Chicago platform, it was a step in advance in "tariff reform." But the senate has not only mangled, but crushed the corpse. Let us have a "rest" from all such "tariff reform," and build from the bottom a revised tariff that will meet the now developed wants of the American people. If all parties would join in such revision it would be better. There is no reason, however, why both the Republican and Populist parties should not agree upon some basis that, whether the Democratic party joins in the work or not, will settle, for years to come, this great question. It is time it was taken out of politics, so that it can be treated as a pure business proposition—devoid of theory and sentiment. The country needs "rest."

M. C. O. Church, Parkersburg, W. Va., April 23.

Want an Extension.

SAN FRANCISCO, CAL., April 30.—The Chinese Six Companies held a big meeting here last night and again petitioned their minister at Washington to memorialize Congress for a further extension of time for registration under the McCrea act. Unless their prayer is granted the registration books will close on Thursday next.

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Children Cry for Pitcher's Castoria.

PESTERED WITH THIEVES.

Wayne County Overrun With a Gang—A Victim's Pursuit. Special Dispatch to the Intelligencer.

HUNTINGTON, W. VA., April 30.—A gang of the roughest and more dangerous lot of thieves that the western part of Wayne county has had to deal with for some time was run down by the good work of Constable Frampton, of this city, last night. Near the mouth of White's creek, a tributary of Big Sandy river, the farmers have been robbed right and left. Meant that they had put away last fall disappeared as though the ground had swallowed it up, and their tobacco barns were almost looted.

Recently they began to suspect a crowd of men who had been looting about Blade Gibson and Wm. Bartram, the latter's term for burglary in the penitentiary having recently expired. The men left the region very suddenly a few days ago, and John Walker, the greatest loser by their depredations, started on their track, and after much travel decided that they came to this city. The constable, after a thorough search, found Gibson and a lot of tobacco on a shanty boat, and he confessed and told where Bartram, the worst of the party, was at some distance above the city.

Last night the officer and a deputy surrounded the house and got the fellow, who is villainous looking. His associates in the shanty were strangers, and bad looking men, too. Gibson and Bartram were turned over to the Wayne county authorities this morning.

A WISE COURSE.

Adopted by the House Lenders—They Will Have No Coney Talk.

WASHINGTON, D. C., April 30.—There is to be no Coney talk in the house of representatives if those who direct the course of legislation can prevent it, and they think they can. It has been appreciated that an inflammatory debate might readily be started in the house as an adjunct to the Coney demonstration outside, and care has been taken to cut off the possibility of such a discussion. The house leaders feel that such a course is imperative in order to avoid congressional encouragement to the movement. Resolutions which may be submitted bearing on Coney's bills or the treatment of Coney's men or hearings for Coney delegations will be promptly referred to committees without debate. Once in committee there is no likelihood of the measures emerging until the question subsides. Neither will the house leaders construe any Coney resolution as embracing a question of privilege, permitting it to be debated without reference to committee. By these means the house will proceed with its regular business as though the Coney demonstration had not occurred. The only means by which reference to Coney can be crowded into the debate will be by the injection of a Coney speech into the debate on one of the pending appropriation bills. Events will be discouraged, and, if possible, prevented, and, if injected, a speech will accomplish nothing.

A Family Laxative.

Physicians are not inclined to recommend self medication to the laity. Yet there is one need, says the American Analyst, which they are almost unable to supply. We refer to the "family laxative." The family physician is able to prescribe for the most complicated and obscure of maladies and yet is often puzzled to know just what to give when asked for a remedy which can be kept in the house for family use as a laxative, that shall be effective, free from danger, and not unpleasant to take. When absent on our summer vacation we were asked by four different parties, representing as many families, what we thought of the "Syrup of Figs." Not one word did we volunteer on the subject, and we were somewhat surprised to find that there was this small token of the very general use of that preparation. These parties said they derived more benefit from it than anything of the kind they had ever used. The simple question with them was, is it a dangerous compound? We informed them that its active ingredient was a preparation of senna, and that it was entirely free from danger. With this assurance they volunteered the information that they should continue to keep it in the house.

The therapeutic properties of senna are so well known that comment on this seems unnecessary. It might be well to notice, however, that Bartholomew says it is "a very safe and serviceable cathartic," and that it is "highly prized as a remedy for constipation." He also makes the important observation that its use "is not followed by intestinal torpor and constipation."

The simple truth of the matter is, we have altogether too few preparations which we can recommend to our families as effective laxative. But the California Fig Syrup company has one of the most desirable combinations for this purpose with which we are familiar. The Fig Syrup company gives the profession the composition of this preparation, therefore there is no secret about it; the persons who use this laxative speak in the highest terms about it; and we are pleased to notice that a large number of physicians are prescribing it.

Viewed from the narrowest and most selfish standpoint the physician will lose nothing by recommending such a preparation as Syrup of Figs to his patients; while viewed from the highest standpoint of doing the best possible by those who place themselves in our care, we would say the profession can do no better than give their endorsement to such a preparation.

Dynamite Outrage.

SAN FRANCISCO, April 30.—An attempt was made with dynamite early this morning to wreck a restaurant on Mission street near Twenty-eighth. Not much damage was done, however, though a report could be heard for nearly a mile and buildings in the immediate vicinity were violently shaken. The restaurant is kept by two Slavonians and it is believed by the police that the explosion was planned by a Slav to whom they sold out another restaurant some time since.

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Syrup of Figs is for sale by all druggists in 50c and \$1 bottles, but it is manufactured by the California Fig Syrup Co. only, whose name is printed on every package, also the name, Syrup of Figs, and being well informed, you will not accept any substitute if offered.

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